

CONFIDENTIAL  
INFORMANT REPORT

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT

SMA Order to Help New Settlers

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

DATE DISTR. 22 March 1948

NO. OF PAGES 4

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH  
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

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Order  
of the Supreme Chief of SMA Germany of the High Command of the  
Soviet Occupation Troops of Germany

No. 209

9 September 1947

City of Berlin

Subject: Measures for Economic Establishment of New Settler  
Homesteads

As a result of the land reform carried out in the Soviet Zone of Germany, the large land holdings of the Junker estate owners, which were formerly the backbone of German reaction and militarism, have been liquidated.

About 500,000 homesteads have been formed from the confiscated Junker estate holdings.

Experience of the last two years' existence of the new homesteads has shown that they become stable. Agricultural work was carried out promptly and well in 1946 and 1947 by the new settlers. The overwhelming majority of new settlers fulfilled their duties towards the German people honorably through prompt and complete fulfillment of the established delivery quotas for agricultural products.

The Soviet Military Administration and the German autonomous administrative organs gave the new settlers significant assistance in their economic development. In addition to cattle which they received on the basis of land reform, 20,300 horses, 98,700 head of cattle, and 98,200 pigs, sheep, and goats were sold to the new homesteads in 1946-1947. Considerable seed loans were also made.

This document is hereby regraded to  
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letter of 18 October 1978 from the  
Director of Central Intelligence to the  
Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

CLASSIFICATION  
STATE # ☒ NAVY ☒ NSRB  
ARMY # ☒ AIR ☒

Document No.

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

IDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: MAY 1978 By:

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available to these homesteads; building credit was granted and special credit for procuring equipment; and special privileges were allowed when agricultural products were delivered. In spite of all this, difficulties in construction of living and farm buildings and guaranteeing cattle for the new enterprises have still not been overcome.

For the purpose of removing these difficulties and quickly concluding the establishment of new settlers

### I order

#### I. the Minister Presidents of the Lands and the President of the Administration for Agriculture and Forestry:

1. Construction of not less than 37,000 houses in 1947-1948 for the establishments of the new settlers, distributed by Lands:

Brandenburg	10,000 houses
Saxony-Anhalt	7,000 houses
Mecklenburg	12,000 houses
Saxony	5,000 houses
Thuringia	3,000 houses

2. Completion (sic) to the new settlers farms and real estate in kind for construction of living and agricultural buildings by 1 January 1948. The size of the building area for houses and farm buildings is determined by the Land government but no larger than 0.75 hectares.
3. Applications for building permits made by new settlers, assignment of land for gardens and houses, and granting of credit must be processed in the course of a month and become legally in force. Persons who are guilty of delay are to be held responsible.
4. Measures must be taken to increase the production of building materials; and bricks, roof tiles, lime, plaster, cut wood, and other building materials must be made available for construction of houses for new settler units.
5. Without delaying the basic plan, additional labor shifts must be organized in the sawmills. Cut wood produced in additional shifts is to be assigned without exception for building requirements of the new settler units. In every Kreis mobile equipment for wood cutting is to be procured for the new settler farms. If the farmers have no building timber available, then it must be made available in adequate amounts from the community forests and offered to the local autonomous administration at special prices.
6. Building materials from war industry plants which are to be destroyed and structures, buildings of former estates, and ruins of ownerless buildings are to be turned over for use to the committees for the Farmers' Mutual Aid and individual farmers.
7. The farmers are to be granted complete independence in selection of the type of buildings they desire. The practice of compulsory building of farm dwelling houses according to the more expensive model plans is to be changed as not right.
8. Measures are to be organized to aid in delivery of building material for construction of homesteads for the new settlers. The Committee for Farmers' Mutual Aid is hereby recommended to call in the tractors of the machinery loan office for this purpose at times when they are not required for field work.
9. Supplies of rationed building materials (nails, roofing paper, glass, cut wood, etc.) which are made available to agriculture are predominantly to be employed for the needs of the new settler units.

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- II. The Minister Presidents of the governments of Lands Saxony-Anhalt, Mecklenburg and Thuringia to guarantee the sale of cattle to Lands Mecklenburg and Brandenburg in quantities given below. The purchase of cattle for Lands Mecklenburg and Brandenburg is to be completed by 1 December 1947.

The Minister Presidents of the governments of Land Brandenburg and Mecklenburg to see to the prompt transportation of the cattle from Land Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, and Thuringia and the presentation of them for sale exclusively to the new settler units.

- III. The Minister Presidents of the governments of Lands Saxony-Anhalt, Saxony, and Thuringia to organize within the Lands the sale of draft and other cattle to the new settler farms and to do this so that in the next three to four months there are no new settlers without cows.
- IV. The heads of the Land administrations of SMA to establish a systematic check on the organization and progress of building work for new settlers. Each quarter, reports on the situation of building work are to be forwarded to me by the Administration for Agriculture and Forestry of SMA.

The Supreme Chief of SMA Germany - High Commander of the Soviet Occupation Troops in Germany  
Marshall of the Soviet Union Sokolovsky

Representative of the Chief of Staff of SMA Germany in Germany  
Lieutenant General D. Samarski

Certification of the Translation:  
M. Körner

New Translation and Alteration (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Trade and Supply, Agricultural Division 19 September 1947. By order of (signed) Schulz)

On I, paragraph 2: By 1 January 1948 the supply of new settlers with real estate for construction of living and farm buildings is to be concluded. The size of the real estate for buildings and farms is established by the Land government but can not be greater than 0.75 hectares.

On I, paragraph 3: Applications for building permits, supplying of real estate for farms, granting of credits to new settlers are to be processed and decided in the course of a month. Persons who are guilty of delay are to be held responsible

For certification of the copy:

(Written signature) Schrieder Presidential Office, Halle  
7 October 1947 (Employee)

Attachment to Order No. 203  
SMA Germany, 9 September 1947

Number  
of horned cattle to be provided for the  
new settlers of Lands Brandenburg and Mecklenburg

Land Selling	Land Buying Brandenburg	Land Buying Mecklenburg	Total
1. Saxony-Anhalt	30,000	"	30,000
2. Saxony	"	30,000	30,000
3. Thuringia	10,000	15,000	25,000
Total	40,000	45,000	85,000

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Note: In the quantities given above, the cattle are not included which were allotted for sale according to Order No. 64 of 21 March 1947.

Chief of SMA Germany for Agriculture and Forestry  
A. Kabanov

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